Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

DDMHS, Weeks Building, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-1601 (802-241-2638)

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani

Carol McGranaghan Dave Aylesworth

DATE: September 15, 2000

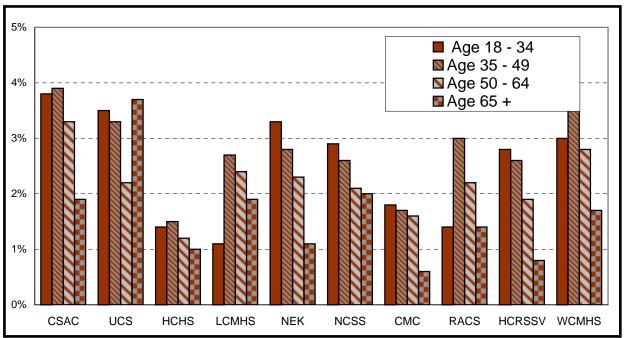
RE: Adult Mental Health Service Utilization Rates by Age

The attached graphs and tables compare the rate at which people in different age groups make use of Adult Outpatient or Community Rehabilitation Programs at their local designated community mental health agency. The first page presents these data grouped by CMHC. The second page presents these data grouped by age categories. This is the fourth in our series of weekly performance indicator reports that examine levels of access to community mental health services for adults in the general population and adults in special populations.

As you will see, adults in the 18-34 and 35-49 age groups are the most likely to access community mental health services (averaging almost 3%). Utilization rates for adults in the 50-64 year age group (2.2%) and the 65 and over age group (1.4%) were substantially lower. This pattern was evident in most regions of the state, but there were some notable exceptions. Lamoille and Rutland, for instance, had surprisingly low utilization rates for adults in our youngest age group compared to their overall utilization rates (1.1% compared to 2.5% for Lamoille and 1.4% compared to 2.5% for Rutland). The utilization rate for the oldest residents of Bennington County (3.7%) was almost twice the rate of any other service area, while the utilization rate for the oldest residents of the Orange service area was less than half the statewide median (0.6% compared to 1.5%).

We will appreciate your thoughts on the appropriateness of these utilization patterns (and the exceptions to these patterns). Also, we would appreciate any explanations you might propose for the observed variation in access to care for adult Vermont residents in different age groups. Please contact us at 802-241-2638 or send e-mail to jpandiani@ddmhs.state.vt.us with your thoughts and suggestions for further analysis.

Adult Mental Health Service Utilization Vermont Residents, by Provider and Age, FY 1999



Region/Provider —	Percent Residents Receiving MH Care			
	Age 18 - 34	Age 35 - 49	Age 50 - 64	Age 65 +
Addison - CSAC	3.8%	3.9%	3.3%	1.9%
Bennington - UCS	3.5%	3.3%	2.2%	3.7%
Chittenden - HCHS	1.4%	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%
Lamoille - LCMHS	1.1%	2.7%	2.4%	1.9%
Northeast - NEK	3.3%	2.8%	2.3%	1.1%
Northwest - NCSS	2.9%	2.6%	2.1%	2.0%
Orange - CMC	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	0.6%
Rutland - RACS	1.4%	3.0%	2.2%	1.4%
Southeast - HCRSSV	2.8%	2.6%	1.9%	0.8%
Washingtor - WCMHS	3.0%	3.5%	2.8%	1.7%
Median by Age	2.9%	2.8%	2.2%	1.6%

Population figures based on 1998 Vermont Population and Housing Estimates produced for the Vermont Department of Health by the University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies. Adult mental health caseload includes all people assigned to a CRT or Adult Outpatient program who received at least one community mental health service during FY 1999.